

Appl. No. 09/681,525  
Amdt. dated 03/16/2004  
Reply to Office action of 12/19/2003

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): Method of manufacturing a multi-tube fluorescent discharge lamp, wherein the finished lamp comprises ~~[[an]]~~ a first glass tube, ~~[[an]]~~ a second glass tube, which is slightly larger than the first glass tube; two cathode portions, and phosphor; said method comprising the steps of:

- a) forming an isolator nearby the middle of the first glass tube;
- b) perforating through-holes nearby the both ends of the first glass tube;
- c) coating phosphor on an outer surface of the first glass tube;
- d) coating phosphor on an inner surface of the second glass tube;
- e) installing two cathode portions, each includes a pair of electrodes, a pipe, a stem and a hole, at respective the both ends of the first glass tube;
- f) fusing the two ends of the first glass tube with the cathode portions;
- g) installing the first glass tube into the second glass tube in coaxial;
- h) fusing the two ends of the first glass tube and the second glass tube;
- i) drying the phosphor layer and sealing one of the pipe by heat;
- j) injecting Hg as several mg into the discharge chamber from the other opening pipe;
- k) vacuuming the discharge chamber from the other opening pipe ;
- l) filling Ar gas as several hundreds Pa in pressure into the discharge chamber;
- m) sealing the other opening pipe;
- n) agitating the liquid Hg into vapor Hg;
- o) installing two bases to respective ends of the discharge tube.

Claim 2 (currently amended): Method of manufacturing a multi-tube fluorescent discharge lamp, wherein the finished lamp comprises an first glass tube, ~~[[an]]~~ a second glass tube, which is slightly larger than the first glass tube; ~~[[an]]~~ a third glass tube, which is slightly larger than the second glass tube; two cathode portions, and phosphor; said method comprising the steps of:

- a) forming an isolator nearby the middle of the first glass tube, two discharge chambers are formed;
- b) perforating through-holes nearby the both ends of the isolator of the first glass tube;

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- c) perforating through-holes nearby the both ends of the second glass tube;
- d) installing the first glass tube into the second glass tube in coaxial;
- e) forming an isolator nearby the middle of the second glass tube correspond to the isolator of the first tube, two discharge chambers are formed;
- f) coating phosphor on an outer and inner surface of the first glass tube and second glass tube;
- g) coating phosphor on the inner surface of the third glass tube;
- h) installing two cathode portions, at respective the both ends of the first glass tube;
- i) fusing the two ends of the first glass tube with the cathode portions ;
- j) installing the combination of the first glass tube and second glass tube into the third glass tube in coaxial;
- k) fusing the two ends of all glass tubes;
- l) drying the phosphor layer and sealing one of the pipe by heat;
- m) injecting Hg as several mg into the discharge chamber from the other opening pipe;
- n) vacuuming the discharge chamber from the other opening pipe;
- o) filling Ar gas as several hundreds Pa in pressure into the discharge chamber;
- p) sealing the other opening pipe;
- q) agitating the liquid Hg into vapor Hg;
- r) installing two bases to respective ends of the discharge tube.

Claim 8 (currently amended): Method of manufacturing a multi-tube fluorescent discharge lamp, wherein the finished lamp comprises an first glass tube, [[an]] a second glass tube, which is slightly larger than the first glass tube; [[an]] a third glass tube, which is slightly larger than the second glass tube; two cathode portions, and phosphor; said method comprising the steps of:

- a) installing two cathode portions, each includes a pair of electrodes, a pipe, a stem and a hole, at respective the both ends of the first glass tube;
- b) forming an isolator nearby the middle of the second glass tube, two discharge chambers are formed;
- c) perforating through-holes nearby the both ends of the second glass tube;
- d) coating phosphor on an outer surface of the first glass tube;
- e) coating phosphor on an inner and outer surface of the second glass tube;
- f) coating phosphor on the inner surface of the third glass tube, which is slightly larger than the second glass tube;
- g) installing the two first glass tubes into respective the two chambers of the second tube in coaxial;
- h) fusing the two ends of the first glass tube and the second glass tube;

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- i) installing the combination of the first glass tube and the second glass tube into the third glass tube in coaxial;
- j) fusing the two ends of all glass tubes;
- k) drying the phosphor layer and sealing one of the pipe by heat;
- l) injecting Hg as several mg into the discharge chamber from the other opening pipe;
- m) vacuuming the discharge chamber from the other opening pipe  
filling Ar gas as several hundreds Pa in pressure into the discharge chamber;
- n) sealing the other opening pipe;
- o) agitating the liquid Hg into vapor Hg;
- p) installing two bases to respective ends of the discharge tube.